



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 13, 2009

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McMorris Rodgers' Statement on Economic Stimulus Vote

Today, Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers released the following statement after the House approved a \$790 billion dollar economic stimulus bill:

"Today's vote is a big disappointment. When we were sworn in last month, we had high hopes to fix a broken system. Congress vowed to change its ways, with promises of openness and transparency, to work in a bipartisan manner to tackle the tough problems this country is facing.

"Unfortunately, today's vote represents more of the same, borrow and spend mentality. This bill increases our debt to \$12 trillion. It ignores the will of the House and breaks promises to have 48 hours to review legislation. And the result is a big government, big spending piece of legislation that does nothing to create jobs.

"My top priority in Congress is turning our economy around and helping hard working middle class families. But I am not convinced today's legislation will do that. Neither are the thousands of constituents who ask me, 'Do you folks in Congress get it? Do you realize you can't keep spending money we don't have?'

"During this debate, I have offered common sense alternatives that would stimulate and grow the economy. Alternatives like stabilizing home values, more assistance for the unemployed and providing immediate tax relief for hard working families and small businesses.

"I believe we must remember the best 'stimulus' is the men and women on Main Street earning money, spending and when the opportunity presents itself, investing in savings. This is a far better approach than any government designed stimulus or bailout."

Sound File Attached:

Just a month ago, we were sworn into office, we had the inauguration, we had high hopes we were going to change a broken system. We had hopes for bipartisanship, hopes for working to change our ways, promises of openness and transparency. (:20) And yet, today's vote only represents more of the same. It's a borrow and spend approach. Yet this time, it's only been taken to the next level. We've increased the debt to \$12 trillion. (:35)